

Investigation Science Fair Project

Steps to developing a scientific investigation

This type of project involves scientific method. Students who want to find out things as a scientist, will want to conduct a hands-on investigative experiment. While scientists study a whole area of science, each experiment is focused on learning just one thing at a time. This is essential if the results are to be trusted by the entire science community.

In an investigation, students:

- **Ask a testable question .**
- **Research the topic**
- **Make a hypothesis about the outcome based on the research or their own knowledge**
- **Design the investigation**
- **Conduct the investigation**
- **Collect Data**
- **Make sense of the data and draw a conclusion**
- **Present their findings for peer review**

What is a testable question?

The key to a good and manageable investigation is to choose a topic of interest, then ask what is called a “testable question.” Testable questions are those that can be answered through hands-on investigation by the student. The key difference between a general interest science question and a testable question is that testable questions are always about changing one thing to see what the effect is on another thing.

<http://school.discoveryeducation.com/sciencefaircentral/Getting-Started.html>